

countries mentioned shall enjoy the right to:—(1) nationality, (2) life, personal liberty and freedom of worship, (3) equal treatment in law and fact, (4) the use of their several languages, and (5) a share of the public funds devoted to educational, religious or charitable purposes.

The sole duty of the League in this matter is to watch over the execution of these treaty obligations. The organ of the League appointed by the treaties for this purpose is the Council. In order to facilitate the exercise of this guarantee, the Council has laid down conditions of receivability which must be satisfied by any petition alleging the inraction of the Minorities Treaties before the petition can be communicated to the State concerned or to the Committee of the Council which considers minority petitions.

Economic and Financial Organization.—This Organization consists of the Financial Committee, the Economic Committee, the Consultative Committee, and the Economic and Financial Section of the Secretariat.

The Financial Committee advises the Council on all financial questions susceptible of settlement by international action on which its advice has been asked by the Council. Its membership includes high treasury officials, directors of great private banks, eminent economists, and statisticians chosen by the Council for their expert capacity and special knowledge of financial questions. Its activities in the past have included the reorganization of the finances of Austria and Hungary, and the supervision of stabilization loans for Bulgaria, Estonia and Greece. At the present time, through the Gold Delegation of the Financial Committee, it is examining the causes of the fluctuations in the purchasing power of gold and their effects on economic welfare. In co-operation with the Fiscal Committee it is studying the international aspects of national taxation policies, in particular, the question of double taxation.

The Economic Committee consists of fifteen members appointed by the Council for their expert capacity in international economic affairs. They do not represent their Governments. The Committee works through a series of temporary sub-committees created to examine particular problems referred to it by the Council. At the present time such sub-committees are engaged in studying the possible unification of customs nomenclature, the principles of international veterinary regulation, and the specific questions referred to it by the Conference on Concerted Economic Action, *e.g.*, the interpretation of the most-favoured-nation clause, the bases and limits of regional agreements for preferential treatment, indirect protection, and the causes of the prevailing depression in industry and agriculture.

Organization for Communications and Transit.—This Organization comprises the Advisory and Technical Commission for communications and transit, a number of permanent and temporary Advisory Sub-Committees, a General Conference meeting in Geneva every four years, and the Communications and Transit Section of the Secretariat.

The function of the Organization is to facilitate international co-operation in transit and communications by the application of Article 23 (e) of the Covenant of the League and to assist the Council and the Assembly in carrying out its duties in this field. Its studies include an examination of the international aspects of ocean and river navigation, railway transport, electrical transmission, calendar reform, and ancillary economic and legal questions.